

Spratt	Thurman	Waters
Stark	Tierney	Watt (NC)
Stenholm	Towns	Waxman
Strickland	Trafficant	Weiner
Stupak	Turner	Wexler
Tanner	Udall (CO)	Weygand
Tauscher	Udall (NM)	Wise
Taylor (MS)	Velazquez	Woolsey
Thompson (CA)	Vento	Wu
Thompson (MS)	Visclosky	Wynn

NOT VOTING—9

Blumenauer	McKinney	Peterson (PA)
Jefferson	Weeks (NY)	Pomeroy
LaHood	Paul	Scarborough

□ 1900

Mr. STRICKLAND and Mr. BARCIA changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 480, I was unavoidably detained and was absent during the vote. It was my intention to vote "no" on this rollcall vote.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WELDON of Florida). Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the pending business is the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. LIPINSKI addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

LATEX ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I use this occasion to recognize this week as Latex Allergy Awareness Week, October 4 through 10, 1999, and to talk about an important health issue, an issue which directly affects a constituent of mine, 9-year-old Jimmy Clark of River Forest, Illinois, whose parents have become leading crusaders to make the public aware of this problem.

Mr. Speaker, Jimmy Clark lives with an ailment that is virtually unrecognized by most Americans and the medical community. Jimmy is latex sensitive. Yes, Jimmy is latex sensitive. He is at risk for serious and potentially fatal allergic reactions when exposed to products made from natural latex.

It is critical that we become fully aware and acknowledge the broad and problematic scope of this issue which the American Academy of Dermatology has called the next major health concern of the decade.

Something as simple as eating lunch in his school's cafeteria could be fatal to Jimmy, since latex gloves are commonly used in the food service industries. Jimmy and others like him are allergic to thousands of items ranging from the balloons at his best friend's birthday party to the examining gloves in an ambulance or at a doctor's office.

It is heartbreaking to know that for thousands of American citizens like Jimmy, that exposure to even these seemingly harmless items could cause him to die. He cannot even receive needed medical treatment or enjoy eating lunch at school without fear of exposure to potentially deadly latex particles.

Reactions to exposure include immediate allergic reactions from skin contact resulting in itching and hives. Reactions to the airborne latex particles include inflammation of the eyes, shortness of breath, asthma, dizziness, and rapid heart rate.

The most severe cases can result in severe blood pressure drop and loss of consciousness. Latex allergy develops most commonly in people who have frequent or intimate exposure to it. At high risk are those who have had frequent surgical procedures, particularly in infancy and workers with occupational exposure, especially to latex gloves. A history of allergies or hay fever also may be a significant risk factor.

Some studies suggest that some individuals who have had dermatitis or

rash and wear latex gloves may be at greater risk. Although the American public knows little about latex allergy, the last 5 years have shown increasing evidence that latex allergy has become a major occupational health problem which has become epidemic in scope among highly exposed health care workers and among others with significant occupational exposure. This is largely because the use of latex rubber has increased, especially in medical devices, because latex is used as a disease-prevention barrier.

However, Mr. Speaker, I am not suggesting who or what is at fault. Nor am I suggesting that latex is not an effective instrument in protecting humans from life-threatening diseases. I am suggesting that we need to increase research in this area and find ways to spare the citizens of this country from unnecessarily developing latex sensitivity.

It is my belief, Mr. Speaker, that an increased awareness will go a long ways towards helping find a solution to this problem.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that our researchers work cooperatively to achieve the right solution, a solution not influenced or marred by special interests from different sides of the spectrum, but a solution developed for those most affected by the disease.

Latex allergy organizations and support groups across this Nation have successfully established a State Latex Allergy Awareness Week in several States. I believe once this awareness of this disease increases, our Nation will see with sincere satisfaction the positive results from research and care for those who suffer from its effects. Hopefully, next year as this same time approaches, both Houses will see fit to declare this week National Latex Allergy Awareness Week.

Mr. Speaker, I close by thanking Mr. and Mrs. Clark and Jimmy for stepping up to the plate to help make Americans more aware of a health problem and a societal need. They embody the real spirit of democracy: if not I, then who? If not then, when? I thank both Jimmy and his parents and say to them that River Forest as well as all of America are proud of them.

ISSUES OF CONCERN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to speak on several unrelated but very important topics. First I want to quote from an Associated Press story of a few days ago: "A billion-dollar-a-year air war forgotten by the outside world but droning on over dusty Iraqi towns does not appear to be getting Washington any closer to its ultimate goal of ousting President Saddam Hussein."

The Associated Press story said that we have dropped 1,400 bombs and missiles on Iraq since mid-December in